HIS MAIESTIES LETTER TO both Houſes of Parliament,

Concerning the manifold diſtractions which are now in this Kindome.

VVith his Maieſties Speech to the Committee, at the delivering of the late Declaration.

Alſo a Speech made by my Lord Keeper before the Kings Maieſtie and ſome LORDS.

As alſo reaſons ſhewing why the Subiects is bound to obey the Command of the Parliament.

John Browne Cler. Parl.

London, Printed for *George Williams* and *Richard Wilſon*, and are to be ſould in the *Old Bailey*. 1642. *Auguſt* 22.

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HIS MAIESTIES LETTER TO BOTH Houses of PARLIAMENT.

HIS Majestie perceiving the manifold distractions which now are in this Kingdome, which cannot but bring great inconvenience, and much feare to the whole Government: In which, as his Majestie is most chiefly interessed, for he holds himselfe by many reasons, most obliged to doe what in him lies for the preventing thereof. Though he might justly expect (as most proper for the duty of Subjects) that propositions for the remedies of these evills ought rather to come to him, then from him; yet his tender care of all his people being such, that he will rather declare himself [illegible] that any thing should be lost for want of [illegible] which may make these [illegible] of Parliament. [illegible] of all those evills, which they shall finde [illegible] for the upholding and maintaining of his Majesties just and Regall Authority, and for the setling of his Government, as for the present and future establishing of their priviledges, the free and quiet exercise of their Religion, the safety of their Persons, the security of the true Religion now professed in the Church

Chapel [illegible] and declaring of Ceremonies, [illegible] a meanes may take away all just offence: Which when they shall have digested and composed into one entire body that so his Majestie, and themselves may be able to make the more cleare and judge of them: It shall then appeare by what his Majesty shall doe, how farre hee hath beene from intending or designing any of those things, which the too great feares and jealousies of some persons seeke to apprehend: And how ready hee will be to equall and exceede the greatest examples of the most indulgent Princes in their acts of grace and favour to their people.

So that all these present distractions (which so apparently threaten the ruine of this Kingdome) doe not (by the blessing of Almighty God) end in an happy and blessed Accommodation; His Majestie will then be ready to call Heaven and Earth, God and Man to witnesse, that it hath not failed on His part.

His MAJESTIES Speech to the Committee at the Delivering of the last Declaration.

I Am confident that you expect not, I should give you a speedy answer to this strange and unexpected Declaration: And I am sorry (since the distraction of this Kingdom) you would thinke this way of addresse so inconvenient, than that proposed by my Message before the Adjournment of both Houses. As touching the grounds of your Fears, and Jealousies, I will take time to answer particularly, and doubt not but I shall doe it to the satisfaction of all the World: God in his good time will bring Him to discover the depths and bottomes of all Plots and Treasons, and then I shall stand right in the eyes of all my people. In the mean time, I must tell you, That [illegible] Vindication of the Imputation laid upon me in Malice by [illegible] Speeches, than by any more generall Rumours and Discourses should get credit with you.

For my Fears and doubts, I did not think they should have been cherished to the prejudice of my Crowne and Dignity by seditious pamphlets and Sermons: are looked upon, and so great Families are extinguished, unpunished, unmoured into: I will confesse my

feares

Feares, and call God to witnesse, That they are greater for the true Protestant Profession, my people and Lawes, than for my owne Rights or safety; though I must tell you, I conceive that none of these are free from danger.

What would you have? Have I violated your Lawes? have I denyed to passe any one Bill for the ease and security of my Subjects? I do not aske you what you have done for Me.

Have any of my People beene transport with fears and apprehensions? I have offered as free and generall a Pardon as your selves can devise. All this considered, There is a Judgement from Heaven upon this Nation, if these distractions conclude.

God so deale with Me and Mine, as all my thoughts and intentions are upright, for the maintenance of the true Protestant Profession, and for the Observation and Preservation of the Lawes of this Land: And I hope, God will blesse and assist those Lawes for my preservation.

And for the Additionall Declaration, you are to expect an Answer to it, when you shall receive the answer to the Declaration it selfe.

The Lord Keeper His Noble Speech in Parliament.

When did ever King of this Kingdome, sit in white robes so long yeres together, and scarce any one made to feele the sensible stroke of the Axe, nor blood drawne, but in petty and particular causes.

Mr. Speaker, It was good with, and I will joyne with you in it with all my heart, that they may be curled and anatomized by the *Parliament*, by all the Kingdome, and by all succeeding Ages that goe about in the least way to innovate or alter any thing in that happy government.

The Comment applauding his Lordships expression with a generall hymne, His Lordship proceeded.

It

It is a joyfull acclamation, and I doubt not, but that your hearts are full: and certainly you my Lords, and you of the House of Commons, will easily know that those that are of that spirit, and that disposition, will quickly resolve all their debates, and all their actions into Keales, and into Cades principles, which is to ruine the Nobility, to ruine the Gentry, to ruine and eat up one another.

Mr. *Speaker*, you have lifted up your Contemplations, and raised them on five excellent pillars.

That of Religion you do well in the first place to begin with, for certainly, it is that which must season all our other blessings, and it is that, to which we ought to ascribe the great happinesse that we have so long enjoyed. In that, with great judgement and discretion you fixe your eye and your ease upon the Reverend Prelates, that assist his Majesty on his right hand. Certainly to them, & to their Predecessors we owe the due preservation of the Gospel, in that purity and sincerity that now we enjoy it.

Let any man but looke backe, from the first of Queene *Elizabeth* and somewhat before to these times, and see to whom we owe it most.

The Prophet *Elisha*, when he had *Elia's* spirit doubled upon him, he tooke up his Mantle, and there are golden Candlesticks and there are gates of Saphire, and Onixe, and other rich stones spoken of, as well in the new Testament, as in the old. And God forbid, that we should live to see God, that is the God of charity, served in such sort and manner, as Plow-men come home from the Ploughes, &c.

Mr. *Speaker*, you shall not neede to doubt, but that his Majesties piety, never to be paralleled by a King, (if I should say by any man, I should not say amisse,) will give you for the House of Commons in England, all the world, in no sort confident and secure of his zeale and constancy in the Religion which he professeth, which nothing within, or without the Kingdome hath ever found to move.

In the next place you looke upon the Judges and Sages of the Law, and well you may, persons for gravity and for learning: certainely not exceeded in any age. And for justice and integri-

ty,

ty, I am sure if any of them be guilty of the least defect therein, they have the least reason to be exempted for it, that ever Judges in any time or age. They have the example of the King, that have the freedome of his royall Election they have received from time to time charge and command, that they should with equity, and with indifferency distribute that Justice committed to them: and so discharge the trust by God laid upon his Majestie, and by him transformed to their dispensation.

For Chivalry, the next pillar on which you set up the Trophies of Honour, the Grandees and great Lords of this Kingdome. You behold them in number I thinke, far greater than ever their Ancestors were: and I doubt not, but their courage is every way equall, and I assure my selfe, they will never forget the famous Acts that have left them honourable to all posterity, nor doe the least thing that may deface the monument all name and accounts of them: or that may in the least kind, staine their nobility and magnanimity.

For Commerce, it is most certaine, Master Speaker, it is the royall Mines of this Kingdome, the East and West Indies of our Nation, and in that we have all great cause to bleſſe God, and to give humble thankes to his Majestie, that he takes such paines to maintaine and encourage it, that this Nation never had a more flourishing time since the Conquest, than now it hath.

There remaines but unity, and as you say well, without that we can never be happy: I will but turne your saying, you have said, *Si fumus inseparabiles, fumus insuperabiles*, I will but say it is a borrowed one; but it is a true one: and I will as soone borrow that, *Si collidimur, frangimur*.

Mr. Speaker, let all the world avoid distrust, assure your selfe, there will not lack out of malignant and ill affections, there will not lack from pestilent and perverse indeavours to make good their actions: there will not lacke malicious and ambitious spirits, that may disjoynt and unknit his Majesty and this House.

And you of the House of Commons, you see his Majesty hath graciously invited you hither: and let me put you in minde, that you forget not what was said unto you, which howsoever I will repeat unto you, that you may the better remember.

That

That there is nothing doth so much take a gracious and good nature, as humble, sweet, and cheerful expressions of affections.

For your Petitions, his Majesty hath heard them all, and grants them all, as fully and freely, as ever himselfe in other Parliaments did, or have any of his Predecessors before him done.

And therefore there remaines nothing now, but that you goe on with cheerfulnesse, you goe on with duty, you goe on with those expressions, that may rejoyce the heart of so gracious so just, and so good a King; and that may be more than showers in the drought and heat of Summer to refresh and cheere this Kingdome, and all his Majesties Dominions.

The Reasons why the Subiect is Bound to Obey the Command of the Parliament.

Voted,

THat if in case of necessitie, his Majesty shall denie his assent to the Ordinance agreed on by both Houses of Parliament, doth oblieg the people, and ought to be obeyed; being warranted by the Fundamentall Lawes of the Kingdome.

Both Houses of Parliament hath tooke into their serious Consideration, the Occasion and reason why the Members of the said Houses should absent themselves upon their summoning in; whereupon they have drawne up a Charge against them, and are resolved that they shall pay 100 l. a man, and to be examined by the Committee before the next sitting.

Jo. Browne Cler. Parl.

FINIS.